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Art Unit: 3754

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes 1. and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with the applicants' attorney Mr. Glenn E. J. Murphy on 7/29/2004.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1, line 4, after "which", --the-- has been inserted; line 15, "piston-like" has been deleted and --piston-- has been inserted; line 17, "slop" has been deleted and --slip-- has been inserted; line 17, "piston-like" has been deleted and --piston-- has been inserted; line 17, "it" has been deleted and --the spindle-- has been inserted.

Allowable Subject Matter

- Claims 1 and 3 are allowed. 2.
- The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art 3. fails to disclose or render obvious a device for dispensing a spreadable material in combination with the other claimed limitations of claim 1:

"wherein the screwthread-free region of the spindle has a smaller length than the internal screwthread of the piston element".

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

Page 3 Application/Control Number: 10/663,096

Art Unit: 3754

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the 4. examiner should be directed to Frederick C. Nicolas whose telephone number is (703)-305-6385. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mancene L. Gene, can be reached on 703-308-2696. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

FN July 29, 2004

Group 3700